



Ground Water Sampling to Continue this Spring

Lane Street Ground Water Contamination Superfund Site
Elkhart, Indiana

May 2013

Public meeting

EPA invites you to a meeting on the Lane Street Ground Water Contamination site on **Wednesday, May 22, 2013**. The meeting is an opportunity to learn about the work being done at the site and how the project may affect you.

Representatives from EPA, IDEM, and ATSDR will be available at the meeting to talk with community members.

The meeting will begin at **6:30 p.m.** at the **Osolo Elementary School**, 24975 CR6 E, Elkhart, Indiana

For more information

See the back page for updated contact information of the EPA and other federal, state and local officials who are working on this site.

Information repository

A complete file of documents regarding the site is at:
Elkhart Public Library
300 South Second St.
Elkhart, IN 46516
574-522-2665

Websites

Lane Street Site

www.epa.gov/region5/cleanup/lanestreet/

IDEM Federal Programs Section

www.in.gov/idem/4152.htm

Indiana Department of Health

www.in.gov/isdh/18878.htm

ATSDR

www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tf.asp?id=172&tid=30

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is getting ready to continue field work this spring at the Lane Street Ground Water Contamination site. The primary purpose of this investigation will be to determine the extent of the ground water contamination under a local industrial park and along Lane Street.

The investigation will include drilling at 12 locations to sample ground water at different depths. A direct-push drill and rotary vibratory drill rig will be used to collect the samples at these places. Samples will be collected at approximately 10-foot intervals at each location, from the water table depth to the end of the boring.

History and background

The Lane Street site is located on the northeast side of Elkhart, Indiana. The area includes a mass of contaminated ground water that extends toward the south from an industrial park north of County Road 106 to neighborhood homes located along Lane Street. The source of the pollution has not yet been identified. The contamination includes trichloroethylene, or TCE, and other chlorinated solvents at levels higher than what are considered safe. The problem was discovered in August 2007 when a Lane Street resident had their well water tested.

Following that discovery, wells at other homes on the street were sampled and more pollution was found. Initially, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management furnished bottled water to 13 homes where wells were contaminated or near the tainted water supplies.

Later, EPA provided water filtration systems to these 13 homes. After further investigation, EPA connected 26 homes in the area to the municipal water supply, completing this project in November 2008. Other homes on Lane Street farther south of the original problem were already connected to city water.

In September 2009, the site was officially added to EPA's National Priorities List, or NPL. The NPL is a roster of the nation's hazardous waste sites eligible for cleanup under the EPA Superfund program.

EPA held a public meeting in May of 2011 to update the community on the ongoing cleanup of the Lane Street site. EPA also conducted interviews with local residents and city officials to gather information to better understand the concerns and information needs of the community. This information was used to develop a Community Involvement Plan that was updated in December 2012.

A remedial investigation of the site was initiated in response to the discovery of the contamination. In April and May 2011, EPA contractors sampled ground water at 25 different locations within the residential area as well as the industrial area of the Lane Street site.

History and background (continued)

Approximately 170 ground water samples and 14 soil samples were collected during this investigation, including two private ground water well samples from a residential and a commercial property.

The results indicated ground water contamination may be deeper than 60 feet, which was the maximum depth at which ground water was sampled during this investigation. Site-related contaminants were not found in any of the soil samples. However, TCE and other contaminants were found in the ground water samples.

EPA contacts

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Region 5 toll-free

800-621-8431, weekdays, 9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Next steps

Results from the additional ground water sampling will be used to determine where monitoring wells should be installed. These wells will be sampled periodically to monitor the contamination in the ground water.

EPA also plans to collect soil gas samples from areas where the ground water plume has been defined as containing contaminants at the highest concentrations to investigate potential vapor intrusion concerns. If results indicate there are concerns, more sampling will be done.

IDEM contacts

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City of Elkhart contact

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Health-related contacts

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